

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/602,508

Examiner

Jean B. Corrielus

Applicant(s)

SMEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/22/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 4-7, 9-23, 25 and 27renumbered as 1-23, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Jean B. Corrielus
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2611

9/27/07

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings were received on 8/22/07. These drawings are acceptable. In addition, applicant's comment has overcome the drawings objection under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Claim Objections

2. Applicant's response has overcome the outstanding claim objection.
3. Applicant's response has overcome the outstanding claim rejection under 112 first paragraph.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 5, line 2, "proving" has been replaced by --providing--.

Claim 14, line 11, after "slicer", --decision—has been inserted.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: a method and apparatus for use in a digital communication system are disclosed. The closest prior art Webster US patent No. 6,233,273, discloses similar method and apparatus. However, as argued by applicant in the response filed on 4/20/07, page 9, with respect to claim 1, "Webster fails to describe any element that determines an estimate of a sliced chip based on a correlation among chips in a codeword. See, Applicant's response, filed January 18, 2007, at pages 10-11. Furthermore, Webster fails to describe "modifying a previous chip slice decision based on the sliced chip and a correlation among the chips in the code word." Applicant's comment further argued that Claim 9 includes the feature of "a content register storing a previous chip slicer decision is modified based on a correlation of chips in the code word." Claim 14 includes the feature of "a content register in the feedback filter storing a previous chip slicer decision is modified based on a correlation of chips in the code word." Claim 18 includes the feature of "a previous sliced chip modified based on a correlation of the sliced chip with the previous sliced chip." Claim 22 includes the feature of "modifying a previous sliced chip decision based in part on a correlation among the plurality of chips in the codeword." Claim 25 includes the feature of "a content register of the feedback filter is modified based on a correlation between chips of the code word." As per claim 27, see claim 9. Applicant's comment suggests that each such features as set forth above, are not taught by Webster. Therefore, such claims are allowable over Webster.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably


Art Unit: 2611

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean B. Corrielus whose telephone number is 571-272-3020. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jean B. Corrielus
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2611

9-27-07